

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

1 - DeLoach
1 - Sullivan
1 - Rosen
1 - Wick

Tolson _____
DeLoach _____
Mohr _____
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Conrad _____
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Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
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TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: February 27, 1967

FROM : C. D. DeLOACH

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN F. KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963
DALLAS, TEXAS

Congressman Hale Boggs, a member of the Warren Commission, called me at 4:25 p.m. 2/27/67, and stated that he would appreciate me coming up to his office to discuss a matter of some importance. I told him I would do so immediately.

After mentioning this matter to you and the Director, I met with Congressman Boggs at approximately 4:45 p.m. He got right to the point and stated he considered District Attorney Garrison in New Orleans to be a mental case. He stated that he personally had been a most conscientious member of the Warren Commission and had tried to do his homework very carefully. He added that since Garrison had made his numerous allegations that he (Boggs) had reread much of the Warren Commission report just to make absolutely certain there were no loopholes. He stated he had found none. He stated he was somewhat worried; however, inasmuch as Garrison had attracted over 100 newspapermen, both domestic and foreign, to New Orleans, and apparently some credence was given to Garrison's remarks inasmuch as these newspapermen were reporting all allegations.

I told him I agreed the newspapermen were reporting all allegations but I doubted that many newspapermen were taken in by Garrison.

Congressman Boggs stated Garrison was making New Orleans and Louisiana the laughing stock of the world. He stated that undoubtedly a lot of people overseas believe Garrison's statements. The Congressman next praised the FBI and indicated he had always been completely satisfied regarding the FBI's thoroughness. He then got to the crux of the conversation. He stated he wanted to make absolutely certain that Garrison had nothing which might bring disgrace upon him, Boggs, in his home state as a result of having previously examined evidence as a member of the Warren Commission. He then asked me in a direct manner if the FBI knew anything which would grant credence to Garrison's allegations.

I told Congressman Boggs that as he well knows, the FBI had conducted its investigation at the direct request of the President. I mentioned that the FBI had no legal basis for entering the investigation.

CDD: hmm
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MEMO TO: MR. TOLSON
RE: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY

and that we had no legal basis for making inquiries at this time. I stated that, therefore, we had not sought any information from Garrison and neither did we intend to in the future. I mentioned that while we are not turning down any individual that wanted to volunteer information, we nevertheless would take such information and furnish it to the Acting Attorney General. I stated that Garrison had publicly made statements attempting in a rather crude and vulgar manner to place shame upon the FBI. I mentioned Garrison had told members of the press if he were approached by the FBI he would handcuff our Agents. I stated Garrison also indicated he would not cooperate with the FBI nor give us any information in the least. I stated for these reasons we have no intentions of going to Garrison.

Congressman Boggs asked me what I thought his position should be. I stated that Minority Leader of the House, Congressman Gerald Ford, answered the press inquiries by stating, "If Garrison has any information he should turn it over to the appropriate authorities." I mentioned that Congressman Ford, by taking this position, was more or less maintaining a dignified silence and not entering into any name-calling contest with an obvious pathological liar.

Congressman Boggs stated he had noted Congressman Ford's statements and he intended to do the same. He stated in the long run he would probably accomplish more by maintaining such a position.

ACTION:

For record purposes.